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Big Bend Jobs & Education Council, Inc.

~~Administrative Office~~  
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August 12, 2003

The Honorable Tony Grippa, Chairman  
Leon County Board of County Commissioners  
301 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32301-1853

Dear Chairman Grippa:

In light of the current economic downturn, we must all join in a collaborative effort to create a climate for economic growth that is fueled by a skilled and trained workforce. In an effort to further support economic development efforts in our county, Workforce Plus, Tallahassee Community College and WIN (Worldwide Interactive Network) have united together. We feel that it is imperative that local government assume an active role in this undertaking; to implement a system that would in essence be used to maintain an inventory of jobseeker skills and credentials of our area's jobseekers. The system, once in place would serve as the ideal matching tool for prospective employers seeking employees.

WIN, the developer of this system, is currently operating in 50 states and all of Canada in a variety of workforce development arenas. WIN offers a broad range of services to "mom and pop", mid-size and Fortune 500 businesses, both public and private, providing useful means in addressing today's workforce needs. WIN specializes in multifaceted technology solutions that incorporate curriculum, staff development training and adult training. This training has resulted in decreased turnover rates among employees that have participated.

This system, if implemented would prove to be cost-effective, user-friendly and act as a human resource development system for Leon County. The system would serve to empower a greater number of citizens who pursue upgrades to their workforce skills and standard of living. Created in an online interactive format, this system provides an extraordinary means to expand our current labor market tools. When implemented, this system will not only serve in meeting the needs of both employers and job seekers but also build upon our efforts to move into a technologically advanced arena.

Through the formed partnerships mentioned previously and the inclusion of Leon County, it is our mission to meet the over-arching goal of a well-trained and balanced workforce. Your assistance and collaborative partnership will prove integral to the success of this effort.

The total funding required to facilitate this project is twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) of which fifty percent (50%) has already been generated as described below:

- WIN/Workkeys the vendor of this assessment instrument will contribute five thousand dollars (\$5,000) in assessment material
- Workforce Plus will contribute five thousand dollars (\$5,000) through use of equipment and web access

We seek your assistance in generating the remaining amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) that would be used for the purchasing of site licenses and the web-based application.

Your consideration when reviewing this request is greatly appreciated. Through partnerships like the one being suggested, we create positive changes for the benefit of all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert W. Bodine".

Robert W. Bodine  
Chief Executive Officer (Interim)  
Workforce Plus

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